

Atty's Docket: tesa 681-kgb
USSN 09/717954

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application. Claims 1-6 and 9-24 are rejected as being anticipated by Luhmann or obvious over the combination of Kreckel in view of Koreska.

Claims 7-8 are objected to for depending on a rejected claim.

Applicants and the undersigned gratefully acknowledge Examiner's time to participate in the telephone conversation on or about June 15, 2004. In this conversation, Examiner elaborated on his reasoning for the outstanding rejections.

Referring to pending claim 1, Examiner made two points that were incorporated into the amendment to claim 1 filed herewith.

In claim element 1(a) the adhesive sheet is described as having 2 "faces" and 4 "sides." Because of these terms are distinct, Examiner did not treat a *face* as an equivalent of a *side*. This distinction is significant in view of the second point that Examiner made, which relates to claim element 1(b).

In 1(b), the UV impermeable material is described as being applied either to each of said *faces*, which Examiner interpreted as being applied to only the top and bottom adhesive faces. The clause 1(b) also provides for entirely enclosing the adhesive sheet, however it is recited in the alternative; i.e., the UV impermeable layer is applied to at least each of said faces or entirely encloses the adhesive sheet.

The Examiner interprets the claim broadly so that enclosing the entire sheet is not mandatory. Accordingly, he states that such embodiments read on Luhmann and the newly applied references.

Atty's Docket: tesa 681-kgb
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With this understanding, claim 1 is amended to reflect that the at least one adhesive sheet has six sides and is covered on all of its six by an adherent UV impermeable material.

Alternatively, each of the at least one sheet is covered by a non-adherent UV-impermeable enclosure that completely encloses the sheet.

It is believed that the amendment to claim 1 overcomes Luhmann and the combination of Kreckel/Koreska because neither disclose or suggest the desirability of completely shielding the adhesive sheet from UV. In addition, these references taken individually or in combination do not provide an enabling disclosure to arrive at the claimed combination.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that all prior art rejections be withdrawn.

Allowance of claims 1-24 is respectfully solicited.

Andy's Docket: tesa 681-kgb
USSN 09/717954

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

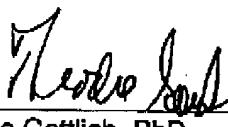
If any extension of time for this response is required, Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefore. Please charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEES

Please charge any further insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Agata Glinska

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